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end of the sixth volume and there are twenty-six maps and plans. Those relating to the actions at Maida, Vimeiro, and Coruña deserve special mention.

E. A. CRUIKSHANK.

*Geschichte der Russischen Revolution.* Von LUDWIG KULCZYCKI. Einzig autorisierte Übersetzung aus dem Polnischen von ANNA SCHAPIROE-NEURATH. Band I. *Von den Dekabristen bis zu dem Versuch, die Agitation ins Volk zu tragen (1825 bis 1870).* (Gotha: Friedrich Andreas Perthes. 1910. Pp. xx, 520.)

ALTHOUGH in the last few years much has been written about the Russian revolution, we are still doubtless only at the beginning of the literature on this subject. The immediate political turmoil, however, has in great measure subsided, and even if the lull be but momentary the historian is in less danger than he was a little while ago of having his clearness of vision obscured by the dust of battle. The time has come therefore when we may hope for careful scholarly works, not only in Russian but in western languages, that shall give us thoughtful and, as far as possible, unprejudiced accounts of the whole movement. Fortunately we have good promise of such a work from the pen of Professor Kulczycki, of Lemberg, whose first volume has just appeared in a German translation from the Polish. He has studied his topic for some twenty years and he has known personally several of the Russian revolutionists. His sympathies are indeed obvious, but so far, at least, he has written with singular dispassionateness, seldom if ever allowing himself to be carried away by his liberal sentiments or by his national patriotism as a Pole.

After an introduction of about one hundred pages, the author devotes the rest of his first volume to the period of Russian history between 1825 and 1870. In two succeeding volumes he will bring down the narrative to September 30, 1905. His tale of recent events may be expected to prove more interesting to most readers than the part we have before us. It will not necessarily be more valuable, for what he already offers is no mere preface but a systematic account of the earlier stages of a great movement. Even if they long seemed barren of permanent result, a knowledge of them is indispensable to any one who wishes to comprehend fully the later history.

Up to the time of the conspiracy which culminated in the rising of the Decabrists in 1825, we may say that in Russia liberal criticism and discontent showed itself in mere isolated mutterings. Since then a revolutionary party has existed, albeit nearly stamped out of existence at the start and for long years small and impotent. Professor Kulczycki's account of the December rising confirms the usually received opinion that the conspirators, most of them men of high character, were hopelessly visionary, not to say incompetent. Accident offered them an extraordinary chance of temporary success in their wild enterprise but

this they threw away, chiefly owing to the cowardice of Prince Trubetzkoi whom they had made their leader at the critical moment. Their failure was followed by almost a generation of reactionary government, a period distinguished it is true by brilliant literary activity but characterized by political stagnation. Revolutionary ideas only began to crop up again under the influence of the teachings of the French socialists, of the troubles of 1848 in western Europe, of the disasters of the Crimean War, the reforms of Alexander II., and the disappointment that followed their first application.

Professor Kulczycki is not writing for beginners; he assumes on the part of his readers familiarity with the history of Russia and with general conditions and he refers to rather than describes political events. What he does offer us is the story of the chief revolutionists for nearly half a century. He explains their respective theories, not perhaps at undue length but in such numbers as to leave us in the end rather confused as to the special peculiarities of each, the more so as several of these revolutionists differed not only from one another but also in the details of their own opinions at different moments in their careers. He seems to have most admiration for Herzen and for Chernyshevski, and does not condemn the anarchistic doctrines of Bakunin, but treats them objectively; indeed, throughout, his tone is so admirably sober that we may forgive him a slight dryness and occasional unnecessary disquisitions. We may well be grateful for so careful and judicial a presentation of the characters, teachings, and activities of the men who were as truly the fathers of the Revolution in Russia as the *philosophes* of the eighteenth century were of the Revolution in France.

ARCHIBALD CARY COOLIDGE.

*The Income Tax: a Study of the History, Theory, and Practice of Income Taxation at Home and Abroad.* By EDWIN R. A. SELIGMAN, McVickar Professor of Political Economy, Columbia University. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1911. Pp. xi, 711.)

PROFESSOR SELIGMAN's purpose, as he tells us in his preface, is to give "an exhaustive statement, not only of the legislation and of the parliamentary history, but also of the scientific as well as of the more ephemeral literature of the topic, in the most important countries from which we have a lesson to learn". This purpose has been carried out with the thoroughness which his earlier works would lead us to expect. The space is about equally divided between the United States and foreign countries. Among foreign countries most attention is naturally devoted to England, the discussion constituting the most complete history of the English income tax which we have. The history of the Prussian tax, and of the agitation of the income tax in France, which seems to be on the point of culminating in actual legislation, are also